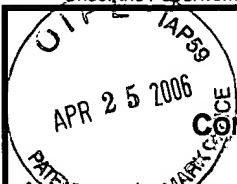


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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to: Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<i>Application Number</i>	09/972,465
<i>Filing Date</i>	October 5, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Wilhelm R. Lowell
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	2644
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Tran, Con P.
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	75449.007

This is a Request For continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior June 8, 1995 or to any Design application. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

1. **(Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114)** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instruct otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
  - a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if the box is not checked.
    - i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Enclosed
    - i.  Amendment/Reply
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
    - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
  - a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
  - a.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.
    - i.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
    - ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 08-3460.
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Rebecca J. Brandau	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33,654
Signature		Date	April 25, 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I certify that the document and fee is being deposited on \_\_\_\_\_ with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 and is addressed to the MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  
Express Mail No.:

Name (Print/Type)	Karen K. Sonsteb		
Signature		Date	April 25, 2006

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: MAIL STOP RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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